

Dear Mr. Iannuzzi,

Our names are Katherine Venzke and Paul Joy. We are the Co-Chairs of Belmont's Economic Development Committee.

We are writing in support of Butternut Bakehouse in their permitting requests to the ZBA for operation of a fast-food restaurant, and expansion of seating at 49-51 Leonard Street.

Owner Suzana Samad opened her first location of Butternut Bakehouse in Arlington in 2019. Her cafe has been a popular destination among locals and fans from surrounding communities. Her staff is courteous and welcoming. Ms. Samad is active in the business community in Arlington and is a member of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Samad has connected with business leaders in Belmont Center and will join the BCBA.

Butternut Bakehouse will occupy two empty storefronts in Belmont Center at a time when the Center is experiencing turn-over and multiple vacancies. Her business is a welcome addition to Leonard Street with the potential to draw patrons from all over Belmont and nearby towns.

Thank you for your acceptance of our endorsement. Please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Katherine Venzke  
Paul Joy